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**Geologische Charakterbilder.** Herausgegeben von Dr. H. Stille. Heft. 1. Eisberge und Inlandeis in der Antarktis. Von E. Philippi. Six Plates with descriptive Text. Gebrüder Borntraeger, Berlin, 1910. M. 3.60.

A new publication that promises to be of much value. It is proposed to produce superior pictures from photographs, illustrating the morphology of the earth's surface, the structure of mountains, the development of typical geological formations, etc., with descriptive and explanatory text. The plates in No. 1 (each  $8\frac{1}{2} \times 6$  or  $6\frac{1}{4}$  inches, exclusive of margin) embrace the following views of Antarctic ice:

Das Inlandeis westlich vom Gaussberge; Tafelförmiger Eisberg, schwimmend. Posadowsky-Bucht; Senkrechte Wand eines etwa 40 m. hohen Eisberges mit deutlicher Schichtung und Schmelzwasserkanälen, eingefroren im Meereis der Posadowsky-Bucht.; Auf Grund geratener und in der Mitte geborstener tafelförmiger Eisberg, Posadowsky-Bucht.; Gewältiger Eisberg mit gerundeter Aussenseite und tief eingeschmolzenem Schuttbande in der Nähe des Gaussberges.; Schuttführende Wand eines Eisberges mit zahlreichen herausgeschmolzenen Geschieben. Posadowsky-Bucht.

The pictures show, with much clearness, a large amount of detail and each is fully described by Dr. Philippi, professor of geology in the University of Jena and the geologist of the German South Polar expedition on the Gauss, 1901-93. The publishers have in view five subjects for the succeeding numbers of 1910, and in the list of other contributors who have promised illustrated topics is N. H. Darton, the Washington geologist.

**An Oriental Land of the Free.** Life and Mission Work among the Laos of Siam, Burma, China, and Indo-China. 200 pp., map, illustrations and index. The Westminster Press, Philadelphia, 1910.

A book of ethnological and geographical interest. The author, a missionary of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions at Chieng Mai, Laos, gives a very careful account of this numerous and wide-spread people, who live under the jurisdiction of the four different countries mentioned in the title. The missionary work among them is confined mainly to the large area east of Burma between the Salwin and the Mekong rivers; in other words, to the western half of Laos. Mr. Freeman gives a good description of the land, much detail with regard to the nature and life of the people and about a third of the book to missionary touring and teaching, the native church and the needs and opportunities of the work. While primarily prepared as a text-book for those who are studying Missions systematically, the book is valuable for general readers and libraries. The author says that the Laos people, in their migration from the east, were profoundly affected by only one outside influence, that of Buddhism, which gave them their alphabet, stimulated the growth of a considerable literature, and was great and beneficent in its educational influence.

**A Labrador Spring.** By Charles W. Townsend, M.D. 262 pp., 57 illustrations from photographs and index. 8vo. Dana Estes & Co., Boston, 1910.

An excellent book, and all the more useful because it relates to the Labrador coast, along the Gulf of St. Lawrence, which is in the Canadian domain and, even yet, is not thoroughly explored. It is only a few years since the Canadians had a clear idea of the tremendous volume of water-power, available for electrical purposes, that is supplied by the numerous rivers which drop